

REPORT.

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

February 19th, 1841.

Read and ordered to be printed.

The joint committee on the State Library, ask leave to submit the following report:

The Committee have examined the annual report of the Librarian, and find that the annexed statements of his receipts and disbursements are correct.

The Library continues to increase by the annual appropriation for its use, and the exchange of books with our sister States, and the General Government. Its usefulness to the several departments of the government, and the public generally, commends it to the favorable consideration of the legislature, while the manner in which it is conducted by the Librarian challenges the approbation of all who are admitted to its privileges. It now contains ten thousand, four hundred and twenty-six volumes, in use, (comprising seventeen hundred and seventy-nine works on different subjects, exclusive of the laws of States, and the United States,) besides three thousand, three hundred and fifty-four surplus volumes, retained for sale, or exchange. A list of which is hereto appended.

It has been augmented since the last report, by seven hundred and seventy-two volumes, under the direction of the joint committee of the last session; and your committee hope, that in a few years it will, under the fostering care of the State, become one of the most valuable State Libraries in the country. While other States are establishing such institutions, and endowing them with a liberal hand, it does not become Maryland